

THE INDEPENDENT

EVERY AFTERNOON

(Except Sunday)

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EDMUND NORMIE, Editor.

W. HORACE WRIGHT, Assistant Editor.
Residing in Honolulu.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1900.

GIVE US A REST.

While the members of the Dole Government are using their Lyddite eloquence in booming the Court of Claims in the Council of State and turning P. C. Jones green, they have evidently lost sight of the all-important matter of finding a site somewhere in which their bones or ashes can be laid at rest. What has become of the Cemetery Committee, what has resulted from our excursions in search of graves? All we know is that the Board of Health has notified those who desire to be buried that from September 30th there is a tabu on all cemeteries within a radius of four miles and that "corpses" will have to make other arrangements if they desire to be disposed of outside the ash barrel.

We do not believe for a moment that the Board of Health has the right to usurp legislative powers, and we have no doubt that the autocratic gentlemen of the Board who have not yet resigned will find that their cemetery "tabu" is not worth the paper it is written on. Mr. Hatch took good care to resign before the question of the legality of his cemetery rule came into effect. Had he not, he might have learned a disagreeable lesson.

No one can accuse THE INDEPENDENT of sacrificing common sense to sentiment, and we are certainly never willing to appeal from the head to the heart. Sentiment, however, plays a big figure in this world and we believe that all decent persons respect the feelings of others, never mind how absurd their ideas and sympathies may seem to us. We also believe in vested rights and we doubt that the Board of Health, a bureau simply under the Government, has the right to cancel privileges granted to those who own burial plots in the cemeteries now in existence. We have nothing to say against the granting of permits for new lots in our cemeteries but we hold that the owner of a lot in which perhaps a father, mother, wife and child are laid to rest, and which is not overcrowded, should be open to the remains of the man who, sentimentally perhaps, wishes his remains to be buried next to those of his beloved friends.

If on September 30 Dr. Wood's rule goes into effect we predict a riot. We do not believe that any man who has wept over a grave at Nuuanu cemetery, who has placed a flower now and then over the mould under which something he loved in life rested, and who silently closed the gate to his plot and walked back into the busy world, hoping some day, to have his remains buried with those of his people, and perhaps a flower placed on his grave, will ever tolerate the ruthless order that on "September 30" we close the grave yards within the radius of four miles from Honolulu.

Individually we believe that cremation is the most sanitary method that can be adopted, but we never approve of ramming our theories down the throats of those who think

otherwise, especially when there is a matter of sentiment at stake. If the Board of Health regulation is to take effect on the 30th of September we will suggest to Mr. Dole, Dr. Wood and the rest of our autocrats to go to work at once and find a place suitable for a cemetery and in consonance with all sanitary rules. But don't try to close the old cemeteries to those who own lots in them and don't enforce a new rule until some substitute has been found for the present system. Persons dying after Sept. 30 cannot very well occupy their residences awaiting action on the part of the Board of Health. Even corpses may become impatient and "loud" and demand a rest.

Court Notes.

Interrogatories have been filed by G. A. Davis and G. D. Gear, attorneys for plaintiff in Sarah Anna Berger vs. Chas. W. Booth and Chas. S. Deaky for plaintiff's examination in support of her bill filed in her suit against defendants.

An answer has been filed by Maraea K. Harbottle and William Harbottle, her husband, defendants in an ejectment suit brought against them by T. W. Rawlins. It is a general denial. C. F. Peterson and J. A. Magoon & I. M. Long for defendants.

An application has been filed by J. A. Gilman, administrator of the estate of John Phillips, for leave to sell the business of deceased. An offer of \$4,000 in cash has been made and received for all the stock, tools, implements and good will, etc., and he considers it a fair price.

Mrs. Emma Baker, widow of the late Robert Hoapili Baker, deceased, has petitioned for the probate of her late husband's will, executed April 3, 1900. She is the sole devise of everything he possesses, either real or personal, and is named sole executrix to serve without bonds. Henry P. Beckley and C. W. Booth are the subscribing witnesses. The realty is at Lahaina, Maui, valued at \$5,000, and personalty at \$175.

Sam Furushima, formerly a cook on the bark Seminole, who is suing Japt C. Taylor of that ship for \$5,000 damages for false imprisonment, answers the demurrer of the defendant, who says the complaint in the suit is defective by the joinder that is petition is sufficient in substance and law.

Italy on the Verge of a Revolution.

New York, April 1.—The Journal has the following from Rome: It can no longer be doubted that a dangerous condition of unrest obtains throughout Italy. This has existed for some time, but has been brought to a head by the Government's attempt to pass a coercive measure known as the "Public Safety bill." This, under plea of suppressing riots, etc., takes away the rights of free speech and of public meetings. For six weeks the Government has attempted to pass this bill, despite the fierce opposition of the Socialists and Republicans, which has now developed into a dangerous revolutionary movement.

The Italian Government strove to pass this bill by empowering the President to suppress speakers but sitting was suspended daily owing to uproar and fights, which Socialists and Republicans started about a week ago. During the discussion of the bill Signor Pantano electrified the Chamber by an impassioned appeal to the constituent assembly, which he demanded should be elected by plebiscite, and he spoke also for reform of the Italian constitution.

The King is so alarmed that he has not been seen for several days. It is known that Queen Margherita has implored him to fly to Civita Vecchia and it is believed he has come to calm Margherita. The people here are not allowed to muster in crowds and everybody is wondering what will happen next.—S. F. Call.

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Safety of Oliver's Force Now Assured

LONDON, April 2.—The Times has the following from Mafeking Basutoland, dated Friday, March 30: General Olivier has just passed Jammersberg Drift with 2000 men, four guns and 800 wagons. The column, which extended thirty miles, was accompanied by many women and children.

RING UP 32.

THE OLD BOYS ARE STILL to the front. The fire took the stables and the rats but the fine carriages and experienced drivers of the Hotel Carriage Co. are again on deck on the old stand, corner of Hotel and Richards streets, and will be on hand as soon as their patrons ring up 32.

1432-H

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NOTICE.

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1449-Im

The Board

of Health

are urging the Government to hasten the building of a

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